

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A computing device comprising:
2 an operating system;
3 a pre-operating system software program;
4 an operating system present software program;
5 a protected storage medium configured to enable the pre-
6 operating system software program to pass an information to the operating
7 system present software program.
- 1 2. The computing device of claim 1 further comprising:
2 a first interface to provide the pre-operating system software
3 program access to the protected storage medium; and
4 a second interface to provide the operating system present
5 software program access to the protected storage medium.
- 1 3. The computing device of claim 1 wherein the protected storage
2 medium is a non-volatile re-writable memory device.
- 1 4. The computing device of claim 1 wherein the protected storage
2 medium is further configured to enable the pre-operating system software
3 program to securely pass the information to a second pre-operating system
4 software program.
- 1 5. The computing device of claim 4 wherein the information is passed
2 during the booting of the computing device.
- 1 6. The computing device of claim 1 wherein the protected storage
2 medium is further configured to enable the pre-operating system software
3 program to securely pass the information to the operating system present
4 software program.

- 1 7. The computing device of claim 6 wherein the information is passed
2 during the booting of the computing device.
- 1 8. The computing device of claim 1 wherein the protected storage
2 medium is further configured to enable the operating system present software
3 program to securely pass the information to a second operating system
4 present software program.
- 1 9. The computing device of claim 1 wherein the protected storage
2 medium is further configured to enable the operating system present software
3 program to securely pass the information to the pre-operating system
4 software program.
- 1 10. The computing device of claim 9 wherein the information is retrieved
2 by the pre-operating system software program after rebooting of the
3 computing device.
- 1 11. A method comprising:
2 providing a first interface to a protected storage medium to
3 enable a pre-operating system software program access to the protected
4 storage medium; and
5 providing a second interface to the protected storage medium to
6 enable an operating system present software program access to the protected
7 storage medium.
- 1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the protected storage medium is a
2 non-volatile re-writeable memory device.
- 1 13. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
2 enabling the pre-operating system software program to send an
3 information to a second pre-operating system software program via the
4 protected storage medium.

1 14. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
2 enabling the pre-operating system software program to send an
3 information to the operating system present software program via the
4 protected storage medium.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein enabling comprises:
2 enabling the pre-operating system software program to store the
3 information to the protected storage medium; and
4 enabling the operating system present software program to
5 retrieve the information from the protected storage medium.

1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the information is stored during the
2 booting of the computing device.

1 17. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
2 enabling the operating system present software program to
3 securely pass an information to a second operating system present software
4 program via the protected storage medium.

1 18. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
2 enabling the operating system present software program to
3 securely pass an information to the pre-operating system software program.

1 19. The method of claim 18 wherein enabling comprises:
2 enabling the operating system present software program to
3 store the information to the protected storage medium; and
4 enabling the pre-operating system software program to retrieve
5 the information from the protected storage medium.

1 20. The method of claim 19 wherein the information is retrieved by the
2 pre-operating system software program after rebooting of the computing
3 device.

4 providing a first interface to a protected storage medium to
5 enable a pre-operating system software program access to the protected
6 storage medium; and

7 providing a second interface to the protected storage medium to
8 enable an operating system present software program access to the protected
9 storage medium.

1 22. The machine readable medium of claim 21 wherein the instructions
2 cause the processor to perform further operations comprising:

3 enabling the pre-operating system software program to securely
4 pass an information to a second pre-operating system software program via
5 the protected storage medium.

1 23. The machine readable medium of claim 21 wherein the instructions
2 cause the processor to perform further operations comprising:

3 enabling the pre-operating system software program to securely
4 pass an information to the operating system present software program via the
5 protected storage medium.

1 24. The machine readable medium of claim 21 wherein the instructions
2 cause the processor to perform further operations comprising:

3 enabling the operating system present software program to
4 securely pass an information to a second operating system present software
5 program via the protected storage medium.

1 25. The machine readable medium of claim 21 wherein the instructions
2 cause the processor to perform further operations comprising:

3 enabling the operating system present software program to
4 securely pass an information to the pre-operating system software program.